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THE PIONEER

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VOL. III, NO. 3. MARCH 1914.

SOUNDZ AND SIMBOLZ.

On the Relations between Spoken and Written Language, with special reference to English. By Henry Bradley. (Oxford Press, 1s. net.)

"Perpetyual sielens iz preskriebd, saiv in kaisez ov nesesiti; but konversaishon bi meenz ov manyual and uther sienz iz praktist."

THIS deskripshon doutles apliez tu that seekret, sound-pruuf chaimber whair, serounded bi def-myut skriebz, Dr. Henry Bradley, the Oxford Trappist, sits absorbd in that "sielent reeding that filz up so much ov the tiem ov moest peepl nouadaiz." "Uther sienz," in the form ov rieting, he praktisez freeli, and he haz aparentli red that peepl ar stil tu be found in the outer wurld hu, liek thair barbarik ansestorz, habityuali komyunikait with wun anuther bi meenz ov oral speech. This iz pruuvd bi the fakt that "Spoken Language" iz distinktli menshond not oenli in the tietl ov the pamflet we ar diskusing, but aulso in the heding ov everi sekond paij.

But it iz aulso kleer that, whiel awair ov the egzistens ov theez reched outkaasts, he duz not aknolej that thai hav eni klaimz tu hiz konsideraishon. The "praktist reeder" iz the lord ov kreaishon, and nuthing must be dun which wood ekspoez him tu eeven the moest fleeting inkonveeniëns.

Unles theez ar Dr. Bradley'z real vyuz, it iz hard tu understand whi—aafter konseeding everi point that the moest ardent speling reformer kood posibli dezier—he kumz doun on the rong sied ov the fens and deklairz himself "opoezd tu eni radikal chainj baist on pyurli fonetik prinsiplz," aultho on an urlier paij he had riten: "Thair iz no dout that thoez unfonetik feetyurz ov our speling which hav thair praktikal valyu for the edyukaited adult duu ad enormusli tu the difikulti ov lurning tu reed and riet. The waist ov tiem in edyukaishon kauzd bi the wont ov konstant relaishon

between the riten and the spoeken wurd iz a seerius eevil, which urjentli kaulz for a remedi. Aafter aul, it iz the interest ov the lurner, not ov the purson hu haz maasterd aul the difikultiz, that haz the furst klaim tu konsideraishon."

That he haz no intrinsik objekshon tu fonetik speling iz kleer from: "It iz surtin that tu an akomplisht reeder it duz not, eksept in rair instansez, mater a jot whether hiz naitiv langwij iz fonetikali spelt or not; whot iz important tu him iz that the gruup ov leterz befor him shal be that which habit haz led him tu asoeshiait with a surtin wurd." And yet the lurner, hu admitedli haz the furst klaim tu konsideraishon, iz throen oever aultugether, and iz left tu wurk out hiz oen salvaishon az best he kan, simpli bekauz "it iz the spoeken wurd *az a hoel* that iz signifikant; and this iz sujested mor kwikli bi a familiar riten form than bi an unfamiliar wun, eeven tho fonetikali mor akyurait." In plain langwij, this kan oenli meen that it iz beter tu waist the skuul-tiem ov aul jeneraishonz tu kum than tu ekspoez the "praktist reeder" tu the shok ov meeting an unfamiliar printed form.

The spoeken wurdz which direktli reprezent thaut ar kauld ideofoenz, and the riten simbolz which direktli reprezent thaut ar kauld ideogramz. It iz probabl that for sum konsiderabl tiem aafter its introdukshon rieting woz ideografik, but at length it woz ekstended so az tu reprezent the soundz ov the ideofoenz, and the simbolz which perform this funkshon ar kauld foenogramz.

Doutles eech foenogram woz orijinali treeted az a yunit, and given a distinktiv shaip, which iz partli whot we fiend in modern Chinese; but a grait advaans on this method woz maid when it woz realiezd that, insted ov treeting the foenogram az a hoel, eech ov its compoenent silablz kood be takld separaitli. Yet eeven such a silabari left a good deel tu be dezierd from the standpoint ov simplisiti. Then at laast kaim the grait diskuveri that eeven the silablz wer kompleks, and kood be further analiezd. This woz efekted bi meenz ov the alfabet, which konsists ov a seereez ov simbolz, eech reprezenting a singl sound, which kan be strung tugether, furst tu form silablz and then tu form wurdz.

The kruushal distinkshon between ideogramz and foenogramz liez in the fakt that the former, sins thai reprezent nuthing saiv soundles thaut, *kan not* hav eni fikst sound ov thair oen; whairaz the later reprezent sound and nuthing els. Yet, sins everi langwij, for the saik ov konveeniëns, bestoez naimz on moest ideogramz,

and sins theez naimz ar yuzhyuali redyust again tu rieting—which iz then oenli the grait-grandchield ov thaut—we fiend that speech and rieting ar so kloesli interwoeven in aktyual praktis that it iz rairli nesesari tu remember that thai reali konstityut tuu toetali diferent methodz ov rekording thaut.

Aul piktyurz, maps, and diagramz, when thai konvai eni meening, mai be regarded az ideogramz, sins the meening thai konvai tu the ie iz independent ov the langwij spoeken bi the oener ov the ie. Theez, houever, ar reali outsied the skoep ov our prezent inkwieri, for the bulk ov them hav not been asiend naimz in eni langwij. Beter egzaamplz ar the Arabic nyumeralz, and the leterz ov the alfabet, which konvai iedeaz ov number and sound, and huuz naimz wood vairi with the reeder.

Rieting which kan oenli be inturpreted bi wun huu understandz sum partikyular langwij or langwijez iz not ideografik, but foenografik, and eni soundz which mai be konvaid bi it ar intended tu be intrinsik, and not tu vairi with the reeder. This foenografik rieting mai iether surv meerli tu rekaul the soundz tu wun hu iz aulredi akwainted with them, or it mai aim at reprezenting the soundz so akyuraitli az tu impart them eeven tu wun hu iz ignorant ov the langwij. Between this later, which iz kauld fonetik rieting, and the former, freekwentli turmd hieroglifik, everi transizhonal staij iz tu be found, and alfabetik leterz ar freeli yuzd without eni regard tu the soundz which thai ar supoezd tu reprezent. Nevertheles, sins the alfabet woz confesedli invented for the purpos ov rekording soundz, and soundz oenli, we mai fairli klaim that it kan never lend itself tu the formaishon ov hieroglifs without being fauls tu its trust.

Wuns maasterd, hieroglifs mai form a much beter meedium than fonetik skript boeth for reeding and for rieting. Dr. Bradley siets medieeval Latin manyuskripts, whiel modern instansez ar aforded bi aulmoest eni sistem ov shorthand, az aulso bi the kontrakshonz yuzd in rieting Braille for the bliend. But, be it noeted wuns again, this apliez tu the "praktist reeder" oenli, for we ar not toeld that eni iliterait chield—and moest children hav an anoiing habit ov starting lief iliterait—woz ever taut tu reed and riet on this tabloid sistem.

Dr. Bradley staits that "The main reezon whi a sistem ov rieting that reprezents the soundz ov the spoeken langwij iz beter than the primitiv ideografik sistem iz that it iz so enormusli eeziër tu lurn." But it shood aulso be pointed out that the grait dis-

advaantij ov unfonetik speling liez in the fakt that—at eni rait, outsied Oxford—it freekwentli hapenz that the reeder haz okaizhon tu *pronouns* sum ov the wurdz that he reedz; and, houever ekspeeriënst he be, it must okaizhonali hapen that wun ov the wurdz in kwestion iz nyu tu him. A moest instruktiv instans ov the dilema in which an Englishman then fiendz himself woz aforded laast yeer. Tuu ov the best English profeshonalz had enterd for the American Oepen Gof Championship, and, aultho thai oeverkaim aul their opoenents ov huum eniwun had ever preeviusli hurd, yet in the end thai wer fairli and skwairli beeten bi an unnoen yuth. Aul the gof wurld rang with the tail ov hiz proues, but it rang in tuu diferent toenz. The nyuspaiperz found no difikulti in rieting panejiriks on Francis Ouimet, but aul speekerz wer noetisabli shie ov atemting tu sound the naim, and yuzhyuali kontented themselvz bi aluuding tu "that yung American."

No dout this woz an ekstreem kais, for with the averij edyukaited adult it iz nesesari tu taik ekstreem kaisez; but with the unfortyunait lurner it iz just the kontrari, sins everi English wurd that he akwierz must wuns be met with for the furst tiem. If he meet it furst in rieting, then he kan not be surtin ov its pronunsiaishon; if he meet it furst in speech, then he kan not be surtin ov its speling. Just kontraast this with Spanish, in which, without a singl fault ov pronunsiaishon or aksentyuaishon, yu kan reed at siet a book ful ov teknikal turmz ov huuz meening yu hav not the remoetest iedea!

Thoez hu ar kompetent tu ekspres an opinion on the subjekt tel us that, whiel a Chinese poëm mai leev a purfektli kleer imij on the miend if red in karakter, it mai at the saim tiem be imposibl tu konfien that imij within definit spoeken turmz. In fakt, it mai be sed that the Chinese karakterz ar nuthing but a number ov mor or les injeenius deviesez for sujesting spoeken wurdz, sins thai apeel direkt tu the ie and hav no absoluut sound at aul, but oenli the potenshialitiz ov soundz, good for aul dialekts.

Thair ar meni advaantijiz in this method ov ekspresing thaut without the intervenshon ov langwij. Aafter seing wun ov hiz tekstbooks translaited intu Chinese, Sur William Ramsay—fild with admiraishon at the marvelus maner in which nyu teknikal ideogramz kood be koind at wil—eksprest regret that English had not traveld further along the ideografik paath. This jokyular dezier seemz tu be shaird in aul soeber urnest bi Dr. Bradley, hu signalz out for speshal praiz the syudo-ideografik (or hieroglifik) naityur ov meni ov

our wurdz. "Thair kan be no reezonabl dout that the grafik diferensiaishon ov homofoenz duz, so far az it goez, render riten English a beter instrooment ov ekspreshon than spoeken English."

This rekaulz a pasij from an oeld adres bi A. J. Ellis: "We riet, for egzaampl, 'air, heir, eyre, ere, e'er,' az fiev simbolz, tu eech ov which we giv the saim sound, and the vairius signifikaishonz ov that sound kan not be distingwisht in living speech, eksept bi a judishus kontekst. But the fiev simbolz, when seen, instantainiusli sujest tu the praktist reeder huu iz akwainted with our langwij fiev diferent konsepshonz independent ov the sound. Thair ar sum pursonz hu ar so delieted with this distinkshon that thai wood ekstend its yus everiwhair. Let such pursonz endevor tu diferenshiait the furst simbol, 'air' for sum ov its diferent meeningz, az 'the *air* ov the atmosfeer,' 'oksijen iz an *air*,' 'a jentl *air* iz bloing,' 'that's an oeld *air*,' 'this iz the *air* and that the akumpaniment,' 'a hauti *air*,' 'with an *air* and grais,' '*air* the bed,' and so on, aul ov which ar eezili distingwisht bi kontekst, and that aloen, iether in speeking or rieting."

In wun ov hiz rair direkt aluushonz tu the spoeken wurd, Dr. Bradley riets "that wun noetabl weeknes ov spoeken English iz the multityud ov wurdz that ar pronounst aliek but difer in meening"; and konfesez that fonetik speling, eeven from the begining, wood "kompel English rieterz tu be mor kairful than thai hav been tu avoid the yus ov ekspreshonz that wood be obskyur or sujestiv ov luudikrusli irelevant iedeaz, if red aloud."

In konkluuzhon, we must protest against the staitment that the oenli wai in which the spoeken and the riten simbol ov everi iedea kood be infurd from eech uther woz bi maiking handrieting the bond slaiv ov speech. If this remark iz intended tu aplie oenli tu the paast, it iz not wurth whiel dispyuting it; but, if it be aksepted az an akyurait staitment az regardz the prezent and fyutyur, then, indeed, aul hoep ov speling reform iz vain! Our oenli chaans ov sekyuring a praktikal reform liez in invurting this proeses, and in maiking speech sumthing veri liek the bond slaiv ov rieting. We must seek tu establish a standerd ov speech, which shal be taut in aul skuulz, yuzd in aul poolpits and theaterz, and aimd at bi aul publik speekerz; and this speech must be rekorded in a fonetik orthografi which kan be apeeld tu az the standerd ov its korekt pronunsiaishon. With nuthing but the speling tu relie on, our predesesorz wer unaibl tu acheev this: but nouadaiz the ekstended nolej ov fonetiks, the introdukshon ov the foenograaf (invalyuabl for

rekording intonaishon), aded tu the eezi tranzit which nou egzists between the skaterd porshonz ov the English-speeking wurld, hav, at eni rait, braut such a skeem within the rainj ov feezibiliti.

Unles sum reform ov this naityur be akomplisht, we shal drift further and further in the direkshon ov China whair, akording tu Prof. H. A. Giles: "The book langwij absorbd aul the interest and enerji ov skolarz, and it woz inevitabl that this elevaishon ov the riten shood be akumpanid with a koresponding degradaishon ov the spoeken wurd. This must larjli akount for the remarkabl fakt that the art ov oratori and publik speeking haz never been deemd wurthi ov kultivaishon in China, whiel the komparativli loe pozishon okyupied bi the draama mai aulso be refurd tu the saim kauz. . . . Thair ar a fyu wurdz, indeed, which, tho komon enuf in the mouthz ov jenteel and vulgar aliek, hav pozitivli no karakter tu reprezent them. On the uther hand, thair iz a vaast stor ov pyurli book wurdz which wood never be yuzd or understood in konversaishon. . . . *No book ov eni furst-rait literari pretenshonz wood be eezili intelijibl tu eni klaas ov Chinaman, edyukaited or utherwiez, if red aloud egzaktli az printed. The publik reeder ov storiz iz obliejd tu translait, so tu speek, intu the koloekwial ov hiz audiëns az he goez along.*"

W. H. THOMPSON.

THE PRONUNSIAISHON OV O.S. "OR, OAR, ORE, OUR."

Mr. A. T. MALING, ov 28 Oakthorp Road, Summertown, Oxford, haz sent us the foloing leter on the pronunsiaishon ov "or" ("ore, oar, our"), which we print az he haz spelt it:—

> Heerwidh I encloaz a list ov wurdz, acording tu dhe sujestyon in dhe last number ov dhe PIONEER, shoing which I pronouns widh *-oar*, and which widh *-or*. Tu mei eer, and tu mei conshusnes ov uterans, dhe later ov dheez (*-or*) haz dhe saim vouel sound which, when standing aloan, iz ritn *au* (in curent speling aulso *aw*); not the ordinari short *o* az in "not," ecsept in dhe fraiz "for it," which I pronouns widh dhe *o* az in "horrid." (So aulso, I think, in "for him" when sed rapidli so az tu drop dhe *h* = "for 'im.") But dhe speling widh *or* seemz guod enuf, az dhair iz scairsli eni risk ov confeuzhon. Dhe udher combinaishon, which I reit *oar*, seemz tu me tu hav aulmoast egzactli dhe saim vouel sound, but foload bei a distinct "gleid" or neutral vouel (ritn ə bei Sweet and udher foanetishanz), which diferenshiaits it, and enaiblz wun tu maintain eusful distincshonz between wurdz, az shoan in mei list. On cairful analisis, I think dhe vouel befoar dhis iz reali a litl moar cloas dhan *au—i.e.*, a litl neerer tu long *o*, which I reit *oa*. It iz bei no meenz dhe *saim* az long *o*: but again it seemz guod enuf tu *spel* it dhe saim: long *o* (az in "boat") never ocurz, I supoaz, in Inglish befoar *r* (unles in compoundz ov which dhe

second element beginz widh *r*, ov which I canot at dhe moment recaul eni); and if wun spelz "feet" and "feer" (curent speling "fear") widh dhe saim vouel-deigraf, wun mai eecwali wel spel "boat" and "boar," dhe diferens being paralel in dhe too caisez; dhat iz, in eech cais dhe efect ov dhe *r* iz tu brauden dhe vouel and indeus a "gleid" or leit neutral vouel after it.

Dhe saim thing hapenz in such caisez az "bait" and "bair" (curent speling "bare" or "bear"), "pool" and "poor," ets. Dhe *Neu Inglish Dicshonari* (Ser Jas. Murray) shoaz aul dhis. az ov coars yoo hav noatist, in its pronunsiaishonz, bei reiting $\bar{e}^{i}$, $\bar{\imath}$, $\bar{o}^{u}$, $\bar{u}$ for dhe long vouelz (*ai*, *ee*, *oa*, *oo*) in ordinari caisez, and $\bar{e}^{ə}$, $\bar{\imath}^{ə}$, $\bar{o}^{ə}$, $\bar{u}^{ə}$ for dhe coresponding soundz befoar *r*; indicaiting the brauder vouel bei dhe upreit (not italic) simbol, and dhe "gleid" bei dhe smaul inverted *e*. But dheez distincshonz doo not seem werth maiking in eni acteual *speling*: dhai cum ov dhemselvz tu an Inglishman, and he haz tu *lern* hou tu avoid dhem in foren langwejez, *e.g.* not tu sai "deer" (widh dhe braud vouel and gleid) for dhe Frensh "dire" or dhe Jerman "dir."

I hoap dhe rezult ov yoor investigaishon wil be dhat dhe S.S.S. wil set itself tu *maintain* dhe distincshon ov "-or" and "-oar," not tu *abolish* it, which I strongli think wuod be a seerius injuri tu dhe langwej. Speling shuod indicait dhe *cairful*, not dhe *cairles*, pronunsiaishon ov edeucaited speekerz.

Wurdz Pronounst widh *-oar* and *-or*,

1. *Pairz distingwisht bei pronunsiaishon.*

Oar:	borne	coarse, course	cored	fore, four	fourth	hoarse
Or:	born	corse	cord, chord	for	forth	horse
Oar:	mourn	Nore	oar, ore	soared	tore,	wore
Or:	morn	nor	or	sword	tor (rocky height in Devon)	war

2. *Sets ov wurdz contrasted in pronunsiaishon.*

Oar: board, floored, hoard, poured, roared, scored, snored, stored.
Or: afford, ford, lord, sward, ward.

Oar: borne, mourn.
Or: corn, forlorn, horn, scorn, shorn, sworn, thorn, torn, warn, worn.

Oar: court.
Or: export (v), fort, import (v), port, quart, short, snort, sort, sport, swart, wart.

3. *Wurdz pronounst widh -oar (widh no koresponding wurdz in -or).*

Oar: bore (bore), core, door, floor, gore, hoar, lore, more, pore (pour), roar, score, shore, snore, soar (sore), spore, store, swore, tore, wore, yore.

Mr. A. R. Williams, ov 155 Lansdowne Road, Worcester, haz been good enuf tu send us a list ov wurdz in three gruups akording az *or* (*our*, ets.), in West Midland speech, stands (*A*) for the vouel sound ov "four" (Mr. Maling'z *oar*); (*B*) for that ov *for* (Mr. Maling'z *or*); (*C*) kontainz wurdz ov the tieps "slower, grower," which duu not konsurn us heer.

Mr. Williams'z list iz in jeneral agreement with Mr. Maling'z. Tu the *oar* wurdz he adz "force, glory, pork, sore, source," and aulso "forth, port," which Mr. Maling treets az *or* wurdz.

Mr. Grant, in hiz *Pronunciation of English in Scotland*, in § 163, agreez with Mr. Maling in klaasing amung *oar* wurdz "board, hoard, court, fourth, coarse, course, hoarse, borne, mourn"; he also givz "force, *pork*." But, unliek Mr. Maling, he asienz the *oar* valyu aulso tu "afford, ford, *sword*, port, sport, *sworn*, *torn*, *worn*," tho, with regard tu thoez we hav italisiezd, he sez that meni hav the *or* pronunsiaishon heer. Az for the wurdz in which no konsonant foloez, Mr. Grant agreez with Mr. Maling. It iz, houever, signifikant that he adz, in § 169, that, thru the inflooens ov Suthern English,

meni speekerz in Scotland giv the *or* valyu tu aul the wurdz he haz preeviusli dezignaited az *oar* wurdz.

The kwestion iz refurd tu in Jespersen'z *Modern English Grammar*, § 13.352, and bi R. J. Lloyd in *Phonetische Studien*, v. 90. Akording tu Storm (*Englische Philologie*, paij 359) Sweet sed: "I surtinli maik no distinkshon between 'mourning' and 'morning.' Scotchmen duu, az aulso arkaiik speekerz in London, but it iz surtinli ekstinkt in the yunger jeneraishon." From Grandgent (*German and English Sounds*) it apeerz that konsiderabl variëti iz found in the yuzij ov the United States.

In hiz *Dimidiun Spelling*, publisht in 1880, Ellis sed: "*Oar* mai be yuzd when it iz wisht tu distingwish the tuu soundz ov *or* in 'for, four,' a distinkshon so rapidli going out that fyu pursonz nou maik it. . . . Smart [a leksikografer ov repyut, hu reviezd Walker'z dikshonari] sez *or* iz sounded *oar* in 'port,' whether az a wurd or az a silabl (eksept in 'important, importunate'), in 'borne, fort, form (= bench), ford, forge, force, fourth, hoard, porch, worn, sworn, sword, corps, core, divorce.' Aultho I hav been in the habit ov distingwishing such wurdz mieself, I fiend that the distinkshon iz maid oenli bi elderli peepl, and that it iz aulmoest imposibl tu teech the yung without maiking them memoriez long lists ov wurdz." In anuther plais Ellis riets: "I hav found that this pronunsiaishon iz so obsoleet that I hav the graitest dificulti in maiking it understood bi utherz, tho I yuz it jenerali mieself."

RUF.

FROM the report ov a reesent liebel kais braut bi a skuulmaaster against a nyuspaiper, which had charjd him with shoing eksesiv severiti tordz a litl boi hu faild tu spel "rough" korektli, we taik the foloing pasij:

> The boi then went intu the boks. He sed that when Mr. N. lookt at hiz book he sed, "Kum out tu the frunt." He then toeld him tu get the kain. He braut it and reseevd tuu kuts, wun on eech hand. Then Mr. N. toeld him tu spel "rough." He spelt it "r-u-f."
> Mr. Justis D.: "And hou aut it tu be spelt?"—"R-o-o-t-h." (Laafter.)
> The witnes kried.

We ar not heer konsurnd with Mr. N. (hu, bi the wai, reseevd wun farthing damijez). We ar indeed sori for Mr. N. and aul uther teecherz hu hav tu impart such ridikyulus spelingz az "r-o-u-g-h." The boi hu spelt the wurd "r-u-f" and woz punisht for it klaimz our simpathi stil mor. When aaskt "hou it aut tu be spelt" he aanserd "R-o-o-t-h"—if yu ar not aloud tu spel it "r-u-f," whot ar yu tu duu? Iz "r-o-u-g-h" eni mor rashonal than "r-o-o-t-h"? Did the boi'z pathetik atemt arouz simpathi on the part ov thoez hu wer prezent? No; thair woz "laafter"—the unintelijent laafter ov the ignorant groen-up. But thair woz wun hu did not see the hyumor ov it: "the witnes kried." In the teerz ov that litl feloe yu hav a kondemnaishon ov the styupid speling ov our dai mor elokwent than eni wurdz we kood yuz tu point the moral.

A SKEEM FROM CHILE.

MR. HUGO DAVIS iz a Welshman hu haz livd for meni yeerz in Chile. He sendz us from Freire the foloing artikl, which we print egzaktli az we hav reseevd it, eksept that we hav maid sum yus ov italiks for graiter kleernes :—

SUM LIMITS OV FONETISISM.

(Dhi foloing rimarks aar ritun akording tw dhi vowel skym insurted biloo, which has dhi Welsh alfabet for basis [beesis?].)

at	faar	met	mate	kin	keen	not	note	fur	pull	pool	awe
a	aa	e	ee	i	y	o	oo	u	w	ww	x

On ryding THE PIONEER for Disembur I wxs greetli inturested bai dhi komiwnikeeshun sent bai Dr. Carruthers ov Guernsey.

On peej 155 hi raits dhus: "I wood reit boeth dhe long and short soundz ov *u* widh *oo*, and get rid ov *uu*, which iz an abominaishon. No English-speeking person wil ever maik a mistaik az too whot sound iz ment bei *oo*." (His oon orthografi.)

Teeking dhi last part furst, riali I [shood this not be *ai ?*] kanot bilyv dhat Inglishmen aar so dul dhat dhe kwd not faind e wee ov meeking e misteek konsurning dhi sownd ov *oo* whail dhe hav thri wees tw eksursais dheer uring injeniwiti, as witnes "blood, good, door" ("blud, gwd, door").

As tw dhi *uu* bying an abomineeshun, it is no moor ov e niwsans tw mi dhan eni udhur dubld vowel. Theer aar meni things wi do [shood this not be *dww ?*] not laik, but as dhi oold seeing has it, wi must lump dhem, for dheer aar limits yvn tw dhi posibilitis ov fonetisism. In dhis kees wi hav foor xlturnativs: dubling dhi vowels, iws singl vowels widh daiakritik sains, invent e daigraf, or invent e niw simbol, and nuthing moor. I bilyv now dhat wi hav rychd dhi limits ov posibiliti. Ov dhys xlturnativs, in mai estimeeshun, dhi lesur abomineeshun is dubling dhi vowel tw indikeet dhi long sownd.

Bisaids, bai adopting dhat method widh niurli xl dhi udhur vowels, wi hav dhi preshus advantej ov iwniformiti, widh dhi eksepshun ov *i*. In areenjing dhis skym I estymd dhat dubling dhi *i* wwd bi xkwxrd, as it wwd rikwaiur tww dots, and if not propurli doted it wwd bi *u* in raiting.

Now, as xl pursuns aar akweented widh dhi *i* sownd ofn givn tw *y*, and as it had no udher emploiment in dhi present skym, I twk it tw represent dhi long sownd ov *i*, and, as luk wwd hav it, its length koresponds tw its neem admirabli.

Ageen, I obsurv dhat such wurds "flying, sighing, crying," &c., giv e lot ov trubl tw evuribodi, and it is dhi sekond and last instans wheer mai skym has tuchd dhi limits ov posibiliti, as far as I kan sy at present.

I hav nevur had eni difikulti widh daigrafs, bikxs I hav no iws for dhem akording tw dhis mood ov speling, as it apiurs tw mi tw bi as niur fonetik purfekshun as kan bi wel imajind, widhowt emplooing niw and streenj simbols, and daigrafs aar dhi mortal sin ageenst fonetisism.

But when I kum tw rait "flai-ing, tai-ing, lai-ing," I faind dhat I must hav tww *i*'s in konjungshon. But must I giv up e konsistent areenjment bikxs it has tww eksepshuns tw dhi rwwl? I think not, for when I kum tw eksamin Spanish and Welsh, I faind e fiw instansis wheer fonetisism has rychd dhi end ov its tedhur in dhem xlso. For eksampl, in Spanish wi hav "creer" ("to believe"), "sobreseer" ("to over-rule"), "reñir" ("to dispute"), "teñir" ("to dye"). Dhi tww *e*'s in dhi furst wurds must bi sownded separeetli, and dhi *tilde* abuv dhi *n* in dhi udhur wurds has dhi ifekt ov dubling it, and ading *i* tw dhi last *n*. It has just okurd tw mi dhis veri instant dhat, as I hav xlredi adopted sum

things from dhi Welsh, dhat I mait dw wurs dhan adopt dhi *tilde* from dhi Spanish, and dash it abuv dhi *i* insted ov dhi dot, dhus: "flaĭng, taĭng, laĭng."

Bai adopting dhat plan insted ov raiting as abuv, I seev maiself dhi trubl ov raiting e haifen, an *i*, and e dot. As far as I am konsurnd, I shal boro dhi *tilde*, widh dhi kaind purmishun ov His Majesti dhe King ov Spain.

Anudhur kees ov rychíng dhi vurj ov fonetik posibiliti is dhis: in such wurds as "wood, wool, would, woof," &c., I am foorsd tw emploi tww *w*'s at dhi komensment ov such wurds, in ordur tw privent dhi pronunsieeshun bikuming dhus: *ood, ool, oud, oof*. But *w* is e most survisabl vowel, for it kan dww dhi wurk ov e konsonant biwtifwli when nyded, just dhi seem as sum wimen kan dww dhi wurk ov e man at taims.

If eniwun shwd faind fxlt widh mai wee ov speling sum wurds, I riplai dhat dhat is mai fxlt and not dhi sistem's. Pursunali I am opoosd tw meeking so much iws ov dhi *z*, and wwd iws it oonli wheer it okurs in dhi present orthografi. Xlso I am ageenst pwting *id* instead ov *ed* at dhi ends ov so meni wurds, and wwd pwt *ks* in plees ov *x* in xl keesis, and so kompel dhi pronunsieeshun tw konform widh dhi orthografi. Bai dwwing so, dhi apyurans ov dhi langwij wwd not bi xlturd so much.

[Tu a Welsh ie such spelingz az *fxlt*, *dwww wwd*, *xkwxrd* mai komend themselvz, but tu the meer Englishman (dul or utherwiez) thai ar not atraktiv. A Welshman, again, mai not atach much importans tu the distinkshon between voist and voisles soundz: but tu our eer thair iz sumthing veri od in such pronunsiaishonz az ar indikaited bi the spelingz "vowe*l*s, sain*s*, bisaid*s*, rych*d*, tuch*d*, ek*s*ampl." Such ruulz az "yuz *z* oenli whair it okurz in the present speling" mai be konveenient for thoez hu hav aulredi lurnt it: but we must think ov the children, and in thair kais we shood rekwier them tu memoriez that the vurb *daiz* ("daze") iz tu hav *z*, but the pluural *daiz* ("days") *s*; the noun *priz* ("prize") *z*, but "he priez" (pries) *s*; *froez* ("froze") with *z*, but *noez* ("nose, knows") with *s*. Bi stiking tu the prezent konvenshon, Mr. Davis thinks, the langwij wood not be aulterd so much; but shuurli this iz wuriing about the moet in the ie, and thinking litl ov the beem—naimli, hiz yus ov *w*, *x*, and *y* (with the valyu ov *ee*, which az a mater ov fakt it never haz in eni English wurd)].

KORESPONDENS.

THE REV. HENRY HODDER, ov Wesley Villa, Pontefract, sendz us the foloing leter:—

Kan we turbiniez *ie* intu *y*?

Wun ov the "good points" in Mr. Hogarth's propoezd substityushon ov *y* for *ie* he iz unkonshus ov or duz not menshon, unles he yuzez the wurd "diakritik" tu embrais the ordinari dot oever the leter *i*. Dots ar far mor freekwentli ignord oever *j* than oever *i*, bekaus *j* haz a mor distinktiv apeerans, and duz not konfyuz itself with ajaisent leterz liek *n*, *m*, and *u* in hand-riten mater. Nou the diskontinyuüs and revursing akshon ov doting *i*'z iz a nyusans, and if it kan be konfiend tu the short *i* hurd in "bit" thair wil be so much to the good. The diferens, I taik it, iz that between the resiprokaiting enjin and the turbien. Kan we turbiniez *ie* intu *y*?

Mr. F. M. SEXTON riets (we leev hiz speling unchainjd):

Personali I hav never felt eni real objecsion tu *uu*, but the fact that it iz an un-English form maiks me prefer *oo*.

Wher it iz neseseri tu distingwish tu werdz, I sujest the eus ov *uu* for the shorter sound. "Good" meit retain its prezent form, but "full" wood becum "fuul" and "pull, puul." Thus: "The good fool puuld the wood out ov the pool."

We meit stil retain the *u* in such werdz as "tu, thru," and befaur vowelz, az in "ruin," ets.

The given sentensez I shood riet az foloz :—"Puut on yoor new shooz"; "Few steudents perseu the studi ov neumatics"; "The heuj buul soon puusht the fool thru the fens."

Mr. Ezra Sykes, ov 51 Headingley Avenue, Leeds, sendz us the foloing koments on Mr. Sexton'z skeem, and givz hiz oen :—

I eksperimented with Mr. Sexton'z "new" skeem meni yeerz ago, and kaim tu the konkluuzhon that it woz unsatisfaktori bikauz ov itz inkonsistensi. This inkonsistensi iz dyu tu the dizier tu ridyuz the chainjez from egzisting wurd formz tu a minimum. I duu not wish tu diskurej Mr. Sexton; mie rimarks ar kwiet simpathetik. No sistem kan be konsistent without thi introdukshon ov diakritiks or nyu leterz. Mai I point out the weeknesez ov Mr. S.'z skeem, and then rispektfuli submit a mor konsistent, but stil unfonetik skeem ?

Mr. Sexton'z Skeem.

a haz seven valyuz : "th*a*t, *a*r, pl*a*is, *a*ul, no*a*n, *a*buv, p*a*am," and a sujested dubl konsonant—"karri."

e haz siks valyuz : "p*e*n, retain, werd, oav*e*r, *e*yl, s*ee*n," and a sujested dubl konsonant—"merri."

i haz wun valyu : "*i*t."

o haz fiev valyuz : "n*o*t, boat, noun, g*oo*d, for" (sorri"?)

u haz fiev valyuz : "m*u*ch, s*u*un, h*u*rt, a*u*l, *eu*s" ("hurri"?)

y haz wun valyu : "m*y*."

(*y* iz a konsonant when inishal.)

a + *i* iz not konsistent for *ê* or *êi* ("their," "vein").
a + *u* ,, ,, ,, *ō* ("haul").
e + *u* ,, ,, ,, *i-uu* or *yu* ("eus") ("use").
o + *a* ,, ,, ,, *oo-o* or *ŏ* ("soul, boat").
o + *u* ,, ,, ,, *aa-oo* ("noun").

Sujested Skeem (*with Kombineishonz*).

Pat, paam, aar, kari, whait, kwaiet, faier,
Pat, palm, are, carry, white, quiet, fire.

flaiing, haws, awr, pawer, plawing, met, merri,
flying, house, our, power, ploughing, met, merry.

their, vein, the, owver, feet, beeing, rial, it, bird,
their, vein, the, over, feet, being, real, it, bird.

spirrit, niw, diwi, kot, koet, grow, growing, sori,
spirit, new, dewy, cot, caught, grow, growing, sorry.

poem, oil, gun, hurl, hurri, puul, ruuin, gwd,
poem, oil, gun, hurl, hurry, pool, ruin, good.

wwd, wuund,
wood, wound.

Analisis.

a haz three valyuz : "that, paam, abuv."

e haz foer valyuz : "met, vein, feet, owver" : and a dubl konsonant for "merri."

i haz tuu valyuz : "it, bird," and a dubl konsonant for "spirrit."

o haz two valyuz : "not, foer."

u haz three valyuz : "but, hurl, puul" and a dubl konsonant for "hurri."

w haz wun valyu : "gwd." (When *w* imeedietli preeseedz a vawel it iz a konsonant.)

(Y mai bee yuuzd insted ov AI, az I sujested in a preevius leter tw yuu. It iz wurth a memberz' voet on this kwestyon.)

(*ii* insted ov *ee* wwd meik the skiim stil moer konsistent.)

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 2190.

K *or* C.—*We hav nou printed several numberz ov* THE PIONEER *with* k *in plais ov* c, *so that our memberz hav been aibl tu juj ov the efekt. The Komiti ov the S.S.S. propoez veri shortli tu inviet a further ekspreshon ov opinion on the* K *or* C *kwestion. It wil be interesting tu see whether the proporshon ov thoez in faivor ov* k *shoez eni chainj.*

AZ meni ov our memberz az posibl shood be aibl tu riet in akordans with our skeem—if for no uther reezon than that ov groing akustomd tu analiezing thair speech. At furst thai mai not be kwiet shuur ov themselvz. In that kais thai wil welkum the help and advies ov wun mor ekspeerienst: and if thai wil riet tu the Sekretari he wil plais them in komyunikaishon with wun ov our memberz hu iz wiling tu giv such help.

From the "Educational Review" (St. John, N.B.): "Sum ov yu hu think yu ar wel up in speling, just trie tu spel the wurdz in this litl sentens:

> It is agreeable to witness the unparalleled ecstasy of two harassed peddlers endeavoring to gauge the symmetry of two peeled pears.

Reed it oever tu yur frendz, and see hou meni ov them kan spel everi wurd korektli." The litl sentens gainz in point from the fakt that in England the orthodoks speling ov tuu ov the wurdz wood be diferent!

The saim number of the "Educational Review" kontainz an artikl on the standerdizaishon ov English speech bi our frend Dr. A. H. Mackay.

THE egzaminerz for the reesent London Juunior Kounti Skolarships report that the wurd "reservoirs" woz spelt in aiti-seven diferent waiz, inkluuding "resourvourers, resivoes, rezzervaues, resofvois, rassavoys." Whot iz the moral? Emploi naitiv wurdz. Whi not "wauterstor"? We see the saim tendensi tu unnesesari forin wurdz in "elevaitor" insted ov "lift," and in the absurd "eskalaitor," whair "steplift" wood hav been much simpler and mor ekspresiv. Verili, the Sosieti for Pyur English haz plenti tu duu, if it wil poot its shoelder tu the wheel.

IN the saim report we reed that: "The children hav had thair eer for the spoeken wurd wel traind [a veri gratifiing staitment, tho odli eksprest], for which, no dout, the teecherz in the infants' departments dezurv kredit. But thair ar eksepshonz—*e.g.* the boi hu roet, "these pipes lead to what we call a viceroy [anuther form ov "reservoir"]: this viceroy is filled with water." The wauter woz freekwentli stord in a "system," and releest bi a "tape."

MR. H. MASON (ov Excelsior College, Auckland, N.Z.) riets az foloez: "I duu not think it iz realiezd **whot a pouerful faktor Simplified Speling wood be for the soeshal az wel az mental uplifting ov the masez.** Langwij haz tu be riten az wel az spoeken. A haaf edyucaited man kan not riet aplikaishonz for kontrakts; whot a lot ov injustis he suferz from this simpl fakt! Forinerz kan not lurn English from books. Simplified Speling wood promoet

Impeerial ekspanshon. An imens amount ov needles kruelti iz praktist in skuulz. It iz a waiti mater for Sosietiz for the Prevenshon ov Kruelti tu Children." Mr. Mason wishez our eforts everi sukses, and endz with the interesting informaishon that the Cheef Justis and the Inspektor-Jeneral ar in faivor ov reformd speling.

Mr. Sidni Bond (hu givz hiz adres az Street High 24, Welington, Somerset, England, Britania) haz sent us a kopi ov hiz pamflet deskriebing "Domni," an internashonal langwij he haz deviezd. Eniwun interested kan obtain it bi sending 6d. tu Mr. Bond. Our oen feeling iz that we hav plenti tu duu tu **maik English a beter instrooment.** When we hav standerdiezd our speech, and provieded it with a sensibl speling, we mai feel a dezier tu konsider internashonal langwijez—or we mai not: for wil not English then maik its wai thruout the wurld with startling rapiditi? Whot els nou cheks its spred but the absurditiz ov whot, with ekskwizit ieroni, we kaul the orthografi? It iz indeed a teribl kakografi.

The "Standard" nyuspaiper sum weeks agoe had an akount ov a diskushon on speling reform at the Authorz' Klub and a leeder in which sum ov the familiar objekshonz wer troted out again. From a leter which woz sent tu the "Standard" but not publisht (we noe not whi) we taik the foloing:—

> Tu wun braut up on a rashonal speling the look ov wurdz wood bekum familiar—just az we hav bekum familiar with the prezent speling; asoesiashonz wood kluster round the wurdz in just the saim wai. Tu wun hu studid etimoloji the wurdz wood be no les ful ov interest. Az an instrooment for komyunikaiting thaut thai wood surv no les wel. With litl trubl the children wood lurn tu reed books in the oeld speling; meni wurdz wood be the saim, otherz wood shoe oenli a sliet chainj, and such "freek" wurdz az "through" wood, bi thair veri freekishnes, impres themselvz on the lurner. But the children wood not hav tu lurn tu riet the oeld speling, and it iz this oever which thai nou spend so much tiem and enerji, which wood be far beter spent in lurning tu speek wel and in reeding good literatyur.
>
> Niether in the report ov the diskushon at the Authorz' Klub nor in yur leeding artikl am I aibl tu find a solid argyument agenst speling reform—nuthing that haz not been aanserd again and again. **The meer "I doent liek it,"** tho reiteraited with emfasis and eeven a pathetik or indignant elokwens, **iz az litl aibl tu chek this grait muuvment az Dame Partington'z broom woz tu poosh awai the Atlantic Oeshan.** "Mrs. Partington'z spirit woz up, but I need not tel yu that the kontest woz uneekwal. The Atlantic Oeshan beet Mrs. Partington."

Mr. Arthur Sykes riets: "I wunder if inflooens kood be braut tu bair tu sujest that the yeer 1919, the sentenari ov the burth ov Kween Victoria, shood be selebraited bi the adopshon ov S.S., az an aulturnativ bi skuulz thruout the Empier. I kan imajin no graiter buun that kood be konfurd on the peeplz oever huum she raind so long. The asoesiaishon ov her naim with so benefisent a reform wood be fiting indeed. Fiev yeerz iz but a short tiem in such a muuvment, but, if the proper authoritiz wer propishus, it wood sufies."

Mr. Raghu Nath, huum we kwoeted in our laast isyu, riets that the "noet" woz misleeding. Whot woz ment iz that Indian wimen kan eezili be provieded with the nesesari literatyur *if thai studi wun komon langwij*, which for the saik ov konveeniens mai be kauld the Hind-Bhasha or Hind-Zaban. But utherz (hu goe in for hiër studiz), amounting tu several thouzandz—not milionz—kan lurn three langwijez, viz. (1) thair muther tung, (2) Indian (or els Sanskrit), (3) English. Thus, thoez hu studi for for or fiev yeerz in the English skuulz duu lurn theez, tho sum ov them substityut French for the sekond langwij.

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PRES KUTINGZ OV THE MUNTH.

Februari.

A PLEE FOR SPELING REFORM (a leter from Mr. Andrew Brodrick) woz printed in: **British Times, British and Colonial Printer, Dublin Daily Express, Folkestone Herald, Glamorgan Free Press, High Peak News, Liverpool Echo, Merthyr Express, Sheffield Independent, Southport Visiter, Stroud News, Western Mail.**

SPESHAL ARTIKLZ ("A Standerd for the King'z English," "Baibi Tauk and Skuul Speech," "The Printer and Speling," "The Revizhon ov Speling") apeerd in: **Birmingham Weekly Mercury, Brighton and Hove Times, Derby Express, Education, Glamorgan Gazette, Glasgow Weekly Herald, Kentish Mercury, Kilmarnock Standard, Nottingham Daily Express, Pitman's Journal, School World, Teacher's Work, Yorkshire Telegraph and Star.**

LETERZ ADVOKAITING REFORM wer printed in: **British and Colonial Printer, Commercial Education, Daily News and Leader, Durham County Advertiser, Educational News, Evening Standard, Educational Times, English Mechanic, Evening Times, Glasgow Citizen, Glasgow**

Evening Citizen, Glasgow Evening Times, Globe, Gloucester Citizen, Ipswich Evening Star, Irish Times, Leinster Express, Liverpool Echo, Manchester Guardian, Month, Newcastle Chronicle, Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, Newspaper World, North Mail, North Wales Weekly News, Nottingham Guardian, Schoolmaster, Sheffield Independent, Southampton Times, Southport Visiter, Stroud News, Times, Western Morning News.

SPELING WOZ REFURD TU IN ARTIKLZ printed in: Autocar, Belfast News Letter, Bristol Times and Mirror, Daily Chronicle, Daily Citizen, Daily Express, Daily News and Leader, Daily Telegraph, Dublin Express, Dundee Advertiser, Eastern Morning News, Educational News, Evening Mail, Evening News, Leeds Mercury, Leicester Daily Post, Liverpool Post, Manchester Evening Chronicle, Mining Magazine, Nottingham Guardian, Publishers' Circular, Standard, Times, Western Morning News.

SPELING REFORM LEKTYURZ wer reported in: Birmingham Dispatch, Birmingham Gazette, Birmingham Weekly Mercury, Bromley Chronicle, Isle of Wight County Press, Madras Mail, Portsmouth Times, Preston Guardian.

A REPORT OV THE MEETING AT THE AUTHORZ' KLUB woz printed in: Bristol Times, Daily Chronicle, Educational Times, Evening News, Evening Standard, Journal of Education, Morning Post, Observer, Pall Mall Gazette, Sheffield Independent, Standard, Town Topics, Western Morning News.

LETERZ OPOEZING SPELING REFORM wer printed in: Daily Express, English Mechanic, Evening Times, Glasgow Citizen, Globe, Halifax Evening Courier, Hull Daily News, Liverpool Echo, Motor, Nottingham Express, Schoolmaster, Standard, Stroud News.

EKSTRAKTS FROM *Nurseri Riemz and Simpl Poëmz* wer kwoeted in Commercial Education and Whitby Gazette. The thurd edishon ov *Simplified Spelling: an Appeal to Common Sense* woz menshond in the Athenæum, Bookseller, and Saturday Review.

A REVYU OV DR. HENRY BRADLEY'Z BOOK ON *The Relations between Spoken and Written Language* woz given in the Spectator.

SPELING AND DIALEKTS wer diskust in: Daily News and Leader, Evening News, Observer, Star.

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